

AFRICAN UNION
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**REPORT OF THE OUTCOME OF THE FIRST AFRICA-
SOUTH AMERICA SUMMIT (ASA)**

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A. INTRODUCTION

1. The Heads of State and Government of African countries and their South American counterparts met in a Summit session in Abuja, capital city of Nigeria on 30 November 2006, at the invitation of His Excellency Olusegun Obasanjo, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

2. The Summit was preceded by a preparatory phase comprising the following two segments:

- a) a meeting of Senior Officials/Experts of the two parties: 26-27 November; and
- b) a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the two parties: 28-29 November.

Both meetings were tasked to examine and finalize the documents that would be discussed and approved by that historic Summit.

3. The Summit was co-chaired by:

- a) President Olusegun Obasanjo, for the African side; and
- b) President Luis Ignacio da Silva Lula of Brazil, for the South American side.

B. ATTENDANCE

4. The following States participated in the meeting:

African Side:

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Guinea Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, The Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

South American Side:

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Surinam, Uruguay and Venezuela.

5. The delegations of twenty-four (24) African States were led by Heads of State or Heads of Government.
6. The delegations of seven (7) American States were led by Heads of State.
7. The representatives of UNECA and NEPAD were also in attendance.

OPENING CEREMONY

8. The opening ceremony was marked by the following speeches:
 - Welcome Address and Opening Statement of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, host of the Summit, H.E. Olusegun Obasanjo;
 - Statement of the President of the Federative Republic of Brazil, H.E. Luis Ignacio da Silva Lula;
 - Statement of the Leader of the Great Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Guide Muammar Gaddafi;
 - Statement of President Evo Morales of Bolivia;
 - Statement of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Prof. Alpha Oumar Konaré;
 - Statements were read out by some Heads of Delegation on behalf of their Presidents who could not attend the meeting, notably the Chairperson of the African Union, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso of the Republic of Congo.

D. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

9. After the opening ceremony, the Summit adopted its Agenda and Programme of Work as follows:

9am – 10.30am: Opening Ceremony

10.30am – 10.45am: Coffee Break

10.45am – 13.45pm:	First Plenary Session: PRESIDENTIAL ROUND TABLE
13.45pm – 3pm:	Coffee Break
3pm – 4.30pm:	Second Plenary Session: PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF THE FINAL DOCUMENTS: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abuja Declaration• Abuja Plan of Action
4.30pm – 5pm:	Closing Ceremony
5pm – 5.30pm:	Press Conference

10. The Summit decided to sit non-stop in order to complete its work before the Lunch Break.

E. FIRST PLENARY SESSION: ROUND TABLE

11. The theme of the Round Table was Africa-South America Cooperation, including conditions for partnership; present trends; future orientations; institutional needs, etc. The Round Table was an interactive session during which the Heads of State of Africa and South America intervened to put forward their views on possible options for, and orientations of the emerging partnership. They came up with proposals some of which helped to enrich the final documents and conclusions of the Summit.

F. PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF THE FINAL DOCUMENTS

12. At the end of the Round Table, the Summit adopted the documents prepared by the Experts and Ministers for the attention of the Heads of State and Government, as enriched by the Round Table, namely:

- Abuja Declaration;
- Abuja Plan of Action; and
- Abuja Resolution on the Africa-South America Cooperation Forum (ASACOF).

13. The final versions of these documents are annexed to this Report and are hereby submitted for the attention of the ongoing ordinary session of the Assembly of the Union for consideration and adoption.

G. CONCLUSIONS

14. The Special Summit resulted in more solid foundations for Africa-South America cooperation and partnership as evidenced by the Africa-South America Cooperation Forum. What now needs to be done is to create implementation and follow-up mechanism(s) for the Abuja Declaration and Plan of Action to:

- map out strategies to translate the vision of the Forum into concrete achievements;
- explore and develop the cooperation opportunities in the specific areas defined in the Abuja Declaration and Plan of Action; and
- deepen and strengthen the ties, historical ties in particular, existing between the peoples of the two regions.

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